



NEWS RELEASE  
*Office of the  
United States Attorney  
for the  
District of Nebraska*  
**Deborah R. Gilg**

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November 16, 2010

United States Attorney Deborah R. Gilg and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Office of Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), the Lincoln Police Department, the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP), and the Columbus Police Department, announce the following information for the attention of the media:

**Event Triggering this Release:**

On November 16, 2010, a Lincoln resident was sentenced to five years and ten months, (70 months), in prison for his role in a conspiracy distribute methamphetamine and cocaine in Nebraska between August of 2009 and April of 2010. In October of 2009, in Columbus, Nebraska, an undercover Nebraska State Patrol investigator purchased approximately one ounce of cocaine from a person who was driven to the location of the purchase by Dante Vicharra. Approximately one week after that purchase, the undercover NSP investigator met with Vicharra in Columbus and purchased approximately two ounces of methamphetamine. In September and October of 2009 and January of 2010, an undercover LPD officer made several purchases of methamphetamine from persons associated with Vicharra. On October 27, 2009, the undercover LPD officer purchased methamphetamine at Vicharra's auto detailing shop from Vicharra's co-worker. Two days later, the officer went back to the auto detailing business, and Vicharra acted as an interpreter between the officer and the co-worker regarding the officer's request to obtain additional methamphetamine.

Vicharra was ordered to serve five years on supervised release after completion of the prison term. It is likely that he will be deported to Peru upon completion of the prison term. He was also ordered to pay a \$100 special assessment.

**Name of Defendant:** Dante E. Vicharra

**AKA:**

**Age:** 40

**City of residence:** Lincoln

**Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty** (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty): Conspiracy to distribute and possess with the intent to distribute 50 grams or more of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine, a Schedule II controlled substance, and a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of cocaine, a Schedule II controlled substance, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846. The possible penalty is not less than five years nor more than 40 years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$2,000,000. Following any prison term, there would be a term of supervised release of not less than four years. There is also a \$100 special assessment.

**Specific Location of Alleged Crime:** Lincoln

**Location of Arrest:** Lincoln

**Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug:** Vicharra was held responsible for the distribution of approximately six ounces of methamphetamine mixture and an ounce of cocaine. Testing on methamphetamine purchased by the LPD undercover officer from Vicharra's associates indicated that the approximately four ounces of methamphetamine mixture sold to the LPD undercover officer contained approximately 1 ½ ounces of actual or pure methamphetamine.

**Others Charged in Same Scheme:** Co-defendants Alfredo Hernandez-Lopez, Wilson Garcia-Panama, and Jorge Arreaga have been sentenced to 60 months, 87 months, and 37 months respectively. Co-defendant Marvin Ricardo Solis is scheduled to plead guilty in December.

**Relevant Dates:**

**Date of Alleged Crime:** From on or about August 4, 2009, to April 1, 2010

**Federal Arrest Date:** April 1, 2010

**Date Complaint Issued:** April 2, 2010

**Indictment Returned Date:** April 19, 2010

**Initial Appearance Date:** April 5, 2010 on complaint, April 19, 2010 on indictment

**Plea or Trial and Date(s):** Pled guilty on August 20, 2010

**Sentencing Date:** November 16, 2010

**Next Court Hearing Type and Date:** none

**Assigned Magistrate Judge:** The Honorable Cheryl R. Zwart

**Held without Bond, or Released from Custody:** held without bond

**In Continuous Custody Since:** April 1, 2010

**Assigned District Court Judge:** The Honorable Richard G. Kopf

**Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release:** SEF